edible oil and oilseeds production and marketing in the cooperative sector.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to overcome the shortage of edible oils Government are trying to increase production of oilseeds by launching National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Project on edible oil and oilseed production and marketing. Besides, Government are implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP). Import of edible oil is also being made to bridge the gap between the demand and indigenous availability.

Production of Films with Emphasis on National Unity

*355. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage the production of feature and TV films with emphasis on national unity, integrity and solidarity, by way of offering awards to the producers of such films; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The production of feature films in India is primarily in the private sector. However, the National Film Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting does provide loan to producers intending to make good quality films. Further the Corporation also provides facilities, though in a limited way, for exhibition of such films in theatres constructed by it under its loaning facilities. Apart from this, the Directorate of Film Festivals conducts each year on behalf of the Government, the National Films Festival which aims at encouraging the production of films of aesthetic excellence and social relevance contributing to the understanding and appreciation of the film cultures of different regions of the country and promoting integration and unity of the nation. Under the aegis of the Festival, there are specific Awards for the best feature film of national integration, *i.e.* named Nargis Dutt Award in 1982), best feature film on social issues such as prohibition, woman and child welfare, antidowry, drug abuse etc.

As a matter of Policy Doordarshan also encourages production of programmes promoting national integration and communal harmony. Doordarshan have a scheme of Annual Awards under which Best Production and Individual excellence awards are given for various productions. The scope of the scheme is proposed to be expanded to give awards to Doordarshan programmes promoting national integration.

Setting up of Consumer Protection Machinery

*356. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "Government going slow on consumer protection", as reported in *'The Hindustan Times'* dated the 9th December, 1987;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that neither the Central Government nor the State Governments have so far set up the threetier consumer protection redressal Machinery provided under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(c) the reasons for not setting up the above-mentioned machinery under the said Act; and

(d) by when the Central Government propose to implement the Act effectively in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) To provide better protection to the consumers and for speedy and inexpensive redressal for consumer grievances, the Government has brought into force the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Several steps have been taken to ensure that the statutory institutions envisaged in the Act are set up on priority basis. In this connection, meetings have been held with the Food Ministers and senior officers of States/UT Administrations. The matter has been pursued vigorously through several letters, telexes, telegrams, etc. The Central Government is in process of setting up the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission. For this purpose, the appointment of the President of the National Commission has been made. Some States have already finalised actions for establishing the redressal machinery under the Act. The Central Government is very keen that the redressal machinery is made functional in States/UTs. For this purpose, the implementation of the Consumer Protection Act is being closely pursued, co-ordinated and monitored.

Representation from the Physically Handicapped

*357. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry have recently received any representation regarding the problems of the physically handicapped persons and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b) Representations from physically handicapped continue to be received in this Ministry and relate generally to problems regarding facilities for overcoming the disability, education, vocational training, employment, etc. The National Institutes are expected to function as apex organisations in their respective areas of disability. A Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Babrul Islam, M.P., to suggest legislative measurts. Services and aids and appliances are arranged for the physically handicapped through voluntary organisations to supplement the efforts made by State Governments.

Promotion of Construction of Mud Houses by the HUDCO

*358. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) is promoting the construction of mud houses in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the HUDCO is exploring the possibilty of constructing mud houses in the urban areas also?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) Mud is a low cost building material, which has been traditionally used and is still being used in the construction of houses in different parts of the country, wherever it is easily available. HUDCO is promoting the adoption and use of low cost building materials and technologies for housing construction.

With a view to focussing attention on the use of mud as a low cost building material and the traditional construction methods with due upgradation and improvement, the HUDCO had organised an International Conference on 'Mud Architecture' in Trivandrum in November, 1987, in collaboration with other agencies concerned, followed by a Symposium in New Delhi.

HUDCO has recently sanctioned loan assistance to one urban housing scheme for the housing of weavers in Maheshwar (Madhva Pradesh), wherein the walls of houses to be constructed with low cost technology will be of compact mud blocks stabilised with lime. HUDOC will also a providing two mud-compacting machines for use in this housing project and subsequently in other project.